



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Ryals, et al.

Serial. No. 10/016,236

Filed: December 12, 2001

For: METHOD OF PROTECTING  
PLANTS

Art Unit: TBA

Examiner: TBA

Atty Docket: PB/5-21215C

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with 37 CFR §1.56, Applicants wish to call the Examiner's attention to the references cited on the attached Form PTO-1449. Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.98(d) copies of all references cited on the attached Form PTO-1449 are not provided because they were previously cited by or submitted to the Patent Office in one or more of the following 35 USC §120 priority applications and should be available in the file wrappers of these applications:

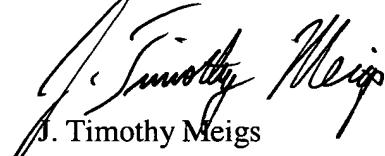
| <u>U.S. Application No.</u> | <u>Filing Date</u> | <u>Status</u> |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| 08/996,685                  | December 23, 1997  | Issued        |
| 09/458,408                  | December 10, 1999  | Pending       |

The submission of these references is made solely for the purpose of complying with Applicant's duty of disclosure, and is not intended as a surrender of patentable subject matter nor is it intended to create prosecution history estoppel.

The Examiner is requested to consider the foregoing information in relation to this application and to indicate that each reference was considered by returning a copy of the initialed PTO 1449 forms.

In accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(b)(3), no fee is believed to be required for consideration of this statement because it is being submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. If a fee is deemed to be required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 19-0134.

Respectfully submitted,



J. Timothy Meigs  
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# TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

11

Application Number 10/016,236

Filing Date 12/12/2001

First Named Inventor Ryals, John

Group Art Unit TBA

Examiner Name TBA

Attorney Docket Number PB/5-21215C

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| Remarks  |   |  |
| 3 references   |   |  |

## SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| Firm or Individual name | J. Timothy Meigs, Attorney for Applicants, Registration No. 38,241 |
| Signature               | <i>J. Timothy Meigs</i>  |
| Date                    | 3/25/02  |

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on this date:

March 25, 2002

|                       |                        |                     |
|-----------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Typed or printed name | Susan D. Holder        |                     |
| Signature             | <i>Susan D. Holder</i> | Date March 25, 2002 |

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